

CHECKLIST: RETROFITTING FOR A DEDICATED HOME THEATER PG. 1 OF 3

Whether you're working with a contractor or remodeling the room yourself, follow these major steps for creating a dedicated home theater:

1. Start by removing all items from the room, including flooring if that is being replaced.
2. Seal off the room with plastic sheathing over doors.
3. If you are doing a full makeover, you will want to start with demolition of the walls (and possibly ceiling) by removing all the drywall. This will provide full access to electrical runs and lighting fixtures.
4. Install all electrical runs and wiring, along with all cables that will connect the projector or TV to the component gear. Install all of the wiring with labels at frequent locations.
5. Shore-up or make mounting studs at exact locations for the TV, projector, speakers and all wall switches and electrical outlets.
6. If you are building raised seating or adding outlets to the floor, run the wires and test the connections.
7. Add the tiered flooring if it is planned.
8. Install all light fixtures and recessed lighting.

... continued on page 2

CHECKLIST: RETROFITTING FOR A DEDICATED HOME THEATER PG. 2 OF 3


Whether you're working with a contractor or remodeling the room yourself, follow these major steps for creating a dedicated home theater:

9. Test all electrical connections, heating controls and dimmers. Test all remote controlled outlets and thermostats before going further. If needed, get an electrical and structural inspection from your local inspector.
10. Before proceeding, make a full diagram of the final wiring and connector locations. This will be useful for changes in the future. Mark the location, within walls, ceiling or doors, of all wiring runs.
11. If using a drop-down screen, install and test it.
12. Install acoustic drywall per manufacturer instructions.
13. If you are installing a new door, hang and test the door. Install cabinets or storage units at this time.
14. Paint any wall areas, finish door with stain or paint, add wallpaper if chosen, finish all trim.
15. Add trim, molding and finish the trim plates on fixtures.
16. Install all mounting brackets.
17. Lay the flooring.

... continued on page 3

CHECKLIST: RETROFITTING FOR A DEDICATED HOME THEATER PG. 3 OF 3

Whether you're working with a contractor or remodeling the room yourself, follow these major steps for creating a dedicated home theater:

- 
18. Hang drapes or acoustic panels.
 19. Install all electronics, TV, screen, speakers and test all equipment and connections.
 20. Place seats, tables and table lighting. Place any other furniture or special items such as popcorn machine.
 21. Test lighting, equipment, sound system and then overall fit and finish.

Taken one step at a time, you can do much or all of the work yourself. By starting with a clean room down to studs, you will be able to renovate an existing room equal to new construction..